

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

See Final Résumé of Congressional Activity (including the History of Bills) for the First Session of the 108th Congress.

Senate rejected S. 1805, Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S1947–S2018

Measures Introduced: Seven bills and one resolution were introduced, as follows: S. 2152–2158, and S. Res. 307. **Page S1999**

Measure Rejected:

Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act: By 8 yeas to 90 nays (Vote No. 30), Senate rejected S. 1805, to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages resulting from the misuse of their products by others, after taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto:

Pages S1947–72, S1973–76

Adopted:

By 52 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. 24), Feinstein Amendment No. 2637, to provide for a 10-year extension of the assault weapons ban.

Pages S1951–59, S1971

By 53 yeas to 46 nays (Vote No. 25), McCain Amendment No. 2636, to require criminal background checks on all firearms transactions occurring at events that provide a venue for the sale, offer for sale, transfer, or exchange of firearms.

Pages S1948–51, S1959–71

By 91 yeas to 8 nays (Vote No. 26), Hatch (for Campbell) Amendment No. 2623, to amend title 18, United States Code, to exempt qualified current and former law enforcement officers from State laws prohibiting the carrying of concealed handguns.

Pages S1948, S1971–72

By 85 yeas to 12 nays (Vote No. 27), Craig (for Frist/Craig) Amendment No. 2625, to regulate the sale and possession of armor piercing ammunition.

Pages S1948, S1973–74

Rejected:

By 34 yeas to 63 nays (Vote No. 28), Kennedy Amendment No. 2619, to expand the definition of armor piercing ammunition and to require the Attorney General to promulgate standards for the uniform testing of projectiles against body armor.

Pages S1948, S1974

Levin Amendment No. 2631, to exempt any civil action against a person from the provisions of the bill if the gross negligence or reckless conduct of the person proximately caused death or injury. (By 56 yeas to 41 nays (Vote No. 29), Senate tabled the amendment.)

Pages S1948, S1974–75

Withdrawn:

Warner Amendment No. 2624, to improve patient access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the health care delivery system.

Page S1948

Lautenberg Amendment No. 2632, to require that certain notifications occur whenever a query to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System reveals that a person listed in the Violent Gang and Terrorist Organization File is attempting to purchase a firearm.

Page S1948

Lautenberg Amendment No. 2633, to exempt lawsuits involving injuries to children from the definition of qualified civil liability action.

Page S1948

Jumpstart Our Business Strength (JOBS) Act—

Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for the consideration of S. 1637, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to comply with the World Trade Organization rulings on the FSC/ETI benefit in a manner that preserves jobs and production activities in the United States, to reform and simplify the international taxation rules of the United States, at 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 3, 2004.

Page S1972

Messages From the President: Senate received the following message from the President of the United States:

Transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to modifying duty-free treatment under the Generalized System of Preferences; to the Committee on Finance. (PM-68) **Page S1999**

Appointments:

Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program: The Chair, on behalf of the Majority Leader, pursuant to Public Law 108-199, Section 104 (c), 1(A), appointed the following individual to serve as a member of the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program: Dr. Stevan Trooboff of Portland, Maine. **Page S2009**

Nominations Received: Senate received the following nomination:

Deborah Hersman, of Virginia, to be a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board for a term expiring December 31, 2008. **Page S2018**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S1999-S2001**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S2001-06**

Additional Statements: **Pages S1996-99**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S2006-08**

Notices of Hearings/Meetings: **Pages S2008-09**

Authority for Committees to Meet: **Page S2009**

Record Votes: Seven record votes were taken today. (Total—30) **Pages S1971, S1972, S1974, S1975, S1976**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 8:52 p.m., until 9:30 a.m., on Wednesday, March 3, 2004. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page S2010.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

APPROPRIATIONS: DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and the Judiciary concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for the Department of Commerce, after receiving testimony from Donald L. Evans, Secretary of Commerce.

APPROPRIATIONS: SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Homeland Security concluded a hearing to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2005 for

science and technology, and information analysis and infrastructure protection, after receiving testimony from Charles E. McQueary, Under Secretary for Science and Technology, and Frank Libutti, Under Secretary for Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the proposed Department of Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005 and the Future Years Defense Program, after receiving testimony from Les Brownlee, Acting Secretary of the Army; Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy; and James G. Roche, Secretary of the Air Force.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Armed Services: Subcommittee on Personnel concluded a hearing to examine active component, Reserve component and civilian personnel programs, in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2005, after receiving testimony from David S.C. Chu, Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; Reginald J. Brown, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; William A. Navas, Jr., Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; Michael L. Dominguez, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; Lieutenant General Franklin L. Hagenbeck, USA, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1, United States Army; Vice Admiral Gerald L. Hoewing, USN, Chief of Naval Personnel, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Manpower and Personnel, United States Navy; Lieutenant General Garry L. Parks, USMC, Deputy Commandant for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, United States Marine Corps; and Lieutenant General Richard E. Brown, USAF, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, United States Air Force.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded hearings to examine current investigations and regulatory actions regarding the mutual fund industry, focusing on fund operations and governance, after receiving testimony from former Senator William L. Armstrong, Oppenheimer Funds, Denver, Colorado; Vanessa C.L. Chang, New Perspective Fund, Los Angeles, California; Marvin L. Mann, Fidelity Funds, Cary, North Carolina; Michael S. Miller, Vanguard Group, Inc., Valley Forge, Pennsylvania; Ann E. Bergin, National Securities